(d) if so, whether the matter has been gone into, if so, what steps are proposed to be taken to increase the frequency of these services and improve their running conditions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) The frequency of route Nos. 168 and 913 is 40|80 minutes and 23|46 minutes during peak and non-peak hours respectively.

(b) to (d) Number of buses plying on these routes are nine. The services are maintained as per the laid down frequency. Certain complaints regarding irregularity of operation of buses on route No. 168 were received. These were looked into, and instructions were issued for ensuring regular operation of services. There is no proposal to increase frequency on these routes as the services are adequately catering to the needs of the commuters.

Delayed departure|arrival of Kerala Express

2235. SHRI THOMAS KUTHIRAVATTOM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) on how many occasions the Kerala Express was delayed for departure and arrival in New Delhi during January and February, 1989;

(b) what were the causes of these delays; and

(c) what steps Government have taken to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Departure... 21 days. Arrival...44 days.

(b) Electrification works, alarm chain pulling and equipment failures.

(c) The punctuality will improve soon as electrification works on North|South route get completed.

"क्रेच-सेन्टर" संचालित करने वाली संस्थाओं को अनुदान

2236. श्री सुनील कुमार पट्टनायक : क्या मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि 1987-88 और 1988-89 के वर्षों के दौरान केन्द्रीय समाज कल्याण बोर्ड द्वारा दो या अधिक "क्रेच सेंटरों" के संचालनार्थ कितनी संस्थाओं को अनुदानों का अनुमोदन किया गया है और कितनी संस्थाओं के अनुदानों का भुगतान उनके अनुमोदन के पश्चात लंबित पड़ा हुआ है ?

मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय में युवा कार्य और खेल तथा महिला और बाल विकास विभागों में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती मारग्रेट अल्वा) : केन्द्रीय समाज कल्याण बोर्ड और राज्य सलाहकार बोर्डों से सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है और सदन के पटल पर रख दी जायेगी ।

Conversion of Rail Lines in Punjab

2237. SHRI M. KADHARSHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of ongoing railway projects for conversion of metre gauge rail lines into broad gauge in Punjab;

(b) whether more rail lines are proposed to be undertaken for conversion in the near future in that State; if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether survey for conversion of Fazilka-Kotkapure rail line was done; if so, what are the details thereof and by when it is likely to be converted; and

(d) whether it is a fact that after conversion, this line would be very useful to meet the defence needs in the border belt; if so, whether Government propose to include this line in the projects for gauge conversion; if so, by when and if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : (a) There are no on-going gauge conversion projects in Punjab.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. A survey for conversion of MG line to BG between Bathinda and Fazilka and lifting of MG Track between Goniana and Kotkapura was completed in December, 1985. The details are:

Length.... 122.6 kms.

Cost .... Rs. 45.43 crores.

The project, being financially unremunerative, could not be considered. There is also no request for gauge conversion of this line on strategic considerations.

2238 [Transferred to the 17th March, 1989]

Re-Designation of Work Experience Teachers as SUPW Teachers

2239. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Work Experience Teachers of Kendriya Vidyalayas were redesignated as SUPW (some useful productive work) Teachers;

(b) if so, when and what are the reasons therefor;

(c) whether essential and desirable qualifications for appointment to both the categories of teachers are identical; and

(d) if not, what are the qualifications etc., for both the categories, separately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) and (b) S.U.P.W. was introduced in Kendriya Vidyalayas from July, 1979 as per the scheme of studies of Central Board of Secondary Education. Consequently Work Experience Teachers were redesignated as Socially Useful and Productive Work (S.U.P.W.) teachers.

(c) and (d) Consequent on re-designation of Work Experience Teachers as SUPWs, no recruitment is being made to the level of Work Experience Teachers as there is no such grade/cadre in the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan. The recruitment is made to the grade of SUPWs as per the qualifications prescribed. The SUPWs have the same pay scale as was prescribed for WETs and the qualifications prescribed for both the posts were also comparable.

Anti India Bill in the U. S. Congress

2240. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIA:
SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:
SHRI BAIKUNTHA NATH SAHU:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an anti Indian legislation titled the 'Indian Human Rights Act, 1989' co-authered by conservative Republican Representative Wally Herger and Representative, Tony Coelho has bten referred to the House Committee of Foreign Affairs on February 21, 1989; if so, what are its provisions and how it would affect India, if passed; and

(b) whether Government have taken up the issue with the US Government; if so, what was the outcome and what are the reasons that two representatives could not be persuaded not to introduce the Bill which affects Indo-US political relations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (PROF. K. K. TEWARI): (a) legislation entitled "Indian Human Rights Bill, 1989" has been presented to the Committee of Foreign Affairs of the US House of Representatives. It calls for denial of the MFN treatment to India unless certain alleged human rights violations in Punjab